

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE

4 SEPTEMBER 2007

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.00 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

Aldermen G Mullan, G Robinson, and J Rankin. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Coyle (chair), B Douglas, J McElhinney, C Ó hOisín A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk and Director of Support Services.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor M Donaghy.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 7 August 2007 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

MATTERS ARISING: - None.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

The payment of accounts for the months of July 2007 were approved on the proposal of Alderman Mullan, seconded by Alderman Rankin.

The Director of Support Services answered queries from members and it was suggested that blue tooth or an equivalent handset should be considered when Council was re tendering for mobile phones and that cost benefit of same should be taken into consideration. He also clarified that those driving Council vehicles were prohibited from using mobiles.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The Human Resource Report dated 4 September 2007 was adopted on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Chivers subject to the following:

Absenteeism: Members welcomed that the Council's year to year absence per full time equivalent employee was 3.51 days (10.53 days annualised) against a target of 3.67 days (11 days annualised).

EXERCISE BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITORS OF THEIR FUNCTIONS IN THE YEAR 31 MARCH 2007:

The Director of Support Services provided an overview of report by Mr John Buchanan, Chief Local Government Auditor on exercise by local government auditors on their functions. He pointed out that the report was to provide the key messages from audits performed for the year ended 31 March 2007 in the 26 Councils.

He indicated that in implementing the recommendations in the report Council could demonstrate that it was trying to improve economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of its services and at the time address its corporate governance responsibilities. Members accordingly agreed to adopt the report and implement any recommendation contained therein.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Sealing of Car Loan Agreement: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Chivers that car loan applications No 36 would be signed and sealed.

Woman in Local Councils – Making a Difference Initiative: It was agreed that Councillor Coyle and Councillor Chivers would attend the Leadership Inspiring Commitment event on Thursday 20 September 2007 in Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Stormont.

Employers Disability Forum: It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Brolly that Council would provide £500 sponsorship to the Employers Disability Forum.

Report on Councillor's Expenditure & Attendance at Meetings: The Director of Support Services tabled report on Councillors expenditure from April 2006 to March 2007 and statistical information on member's attendance at Council meeting from August 2005 to July 2007. Noted.

NEXT MEETING: - 2 October 2007.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 7.40 pm)

Chair: _____